

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CAIRO 23041 280936Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00
XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGRE-00 /084 W
-----021171 281135Z /23

R 280931Z DEC 77
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3525
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAIRO 23041

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EFIN, ECON, EG
SUBJ: GOE QUIETLY ADJUSTS SUPPLY COMMODITY SALES TO PUBLIC

REF: CAIRO 22265

1. AS MENTIONED REFTTEL, GOE IS APPARENTLY MOVING QUIETLY TO CONFRONT SOME OF ITS PROBLEMS IN SUPPLY COMMODITY SECTOR. MOST RECENT MOVE OCCURRED IN MEAT SUPPLIES WHEN AT BEGINNING OF DECEMBER NEW RATION RESTRICTIONS WERE IMPOSED. NORMAL CONSUMER PATTERN IS TO OBTAIN ALL ALLOWABLE RATIONED SUPPLIES IN FIRST FEW DAYS OF MONTH WHILE SUPPLIES ARE PLENTIFUL. PREVIOUS MEAT RATION WAS ONE KILO PER PERSON PER MONTH WITH UNLIMITED FAMILY QUOTA. ON DECEMBER 1, HOWEVER, QUANTITY WAS REDUCED TO 1/2 KILO PER PERSON WITH MAXIMUM 3 KILOS PER FAMILY PER MONTH. THIS LIMIT, HOWEVER, WAS LIFTED DECEMBER 2. ABOUT DECEMBER 10 AMENDED RESTRICTIONS OFFICIALLY WENT INTO FORCE AND WILL REMAIN, WE ARE TOLD. NEW QUANTITIES ALLOWED INCLUDE 1 KILO OF IMPORTED MEAT PER PERSON AT SUBSIDIZED 70 PIASTER PRICE (A 2 PIASTER INCREASE) WITH MAXIMUM 3 KILOS PER FAMILY PER MONTH. MUCH PREFERRED EGYPTIAN CORN-FED
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CAIRO 23041 280936Z

BEEF WILL BE TRADED SOLELY AT COMMERCIALLY ESTABLISHED RATES.

2. OTHER COMMODITIES HAVE ALSO BEEN AFFECTED. TEN PIASTER SUGAR IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE. RATION LIMIT ON SUGAR ALSO CHANGED TO ONE KILO PER PERSON PER MONTH, WITH MAXIMUM 5 KILOS PER FAMILY. NEW PRICE WILL RANGE FROM

27 PIASTERS (BULK) TO 30 PIASTERS (CUBES). THIS REPRESENTS AN EFFECTIVE TRIPLING OF PRICE IN A MAJOR COMMODITY. IMPORTED (US) CHICKEN, AVAILABLE IN UNLIMITED QUANTITIES, IS STILL PRICED AT 100 PIASTERS PER KILO. RICE, TEA, WHEAT FLOUR (WHICH HAS BEEN IN SHORT SUPPLY RECENTLY) AND HORSE BEANS APPARENTLY REMAIN UNCHANGED.

3. RATION SYSTEM TIGHTENED BY ADDITIONAL STAMP ADDED TO RATION CARD RESTRICTING PURCHASES OF SUBSIDIZED ITEMS TO DESIGNATED COOPERATIVE STORE.

4. WE HAVE HEARD NUMEROUS REPORTS THAT BUS FARES HAVE INCREASED, BUT FIRST-HAND RESEARCH INDICATES PRICES (1 1/2 - 5 PIASTERS AVERAGE) ON LINES CHECKED REMAIN UNCHANGED.

5. COMMENT: AS MENTIONED PREVIOUSLY, RATHER SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN AVAILABILITY OF SUBSIDIZED/RATIONED GOODS COMES AT TIME WHEN EGYPTIANS ARE FOCUSED ON PEACE CONFERENCE, NOT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS. BY USING UNANNOUNCED REORGANIZATION OF SUPPLY SYSTEM, GOE UNDOUBTEDLY HOPING CHANGES WILL BE SUSTAINED WITHOUT TOO MUCH COMPLAINING. WE SUSPECT THIS WILL BE CASE, ALTHOUGH IT WILL MEAN POPULATION WILL BE WATCHING ALL THE MORE CAREFULLY WHAT HAPPENS AS 1978 BUDGET REACHES IMPLEMENTATION. EILTS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 28-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO23041
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770483-0030
Format: TEL
From: CAIRO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771213/aaaaakkw.tel
Line Count: 86
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cc035efc-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 CAIRO 22265
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13-Apr-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 123231
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOE QUIETLY ADJUSTS SUPPLY COMMODITY SALES TO PUBLIC
TAGS: EFIN, ECON, EG
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cc035efc-c188-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009